

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

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August 30, 2001

## Members of the Board

Los Angeles Local Agency Formation Commission  
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|-------------------|----------------|---------|----------------|------------|----|
| Post-It* Fax Note | 7671           | Date    | 9-7-01         | # of pages | 10 |
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Dear LAFCO Board Members

Since last December, the City Ethics Commission has provided public testimony, additional written comment and sample language to your agency in support of public disclosure of lobbying and of campaign activities related to special reorganization proposals.<sup>1</sup> As you know, the City Ethics Commission first approached your agency in July of 1999 to express our concern over the lack of public access to information about the receipts and expenditures made to support local political campaigns that fund the initiation of special reorganization proposals, and the lack of disclosure requirements for those who lobby LAFCO decision makers on matters important to the City and to the region.

In response to our call for disclosure, LAFCO expressed concern that it was not empowered to adopt the recommended provisions. Due to authority explicitly granted to LAFCOs in January of this year through amendments by AB 2838, however, there is now no question that the Los Angeles LAFCO may establish such public disclosure rules pursuant to the Cortese-Knox Act, the state law under which LAFCOs operate. In response to a requirement contained in AB 2838, the LAFCO Board held a public hearing last spring to consider whether to adopt disclosure rules. Although taking no action on substantive issues at that time, the Board appointed a three-member subcommittee to report back with disclosure proposals for the full panel's consideration.

To date, the subcommittee has neither held additional public hearings nor reported back to the public about its deliberations or recommendations with regard to these disclosure issues.

We write today to urge you to schedule the subcommittee's disclosure report for public hearing and comment in September so that the public can be fully informed about the conclusions the AB 2838 disclosure subcommittee has reached in the six months

<sup>1</sup> A copy of our March 29, 2001 letter and attachments are provided for your reference.

Members of the Board  
Los Angeles Local Agency Formation Commission

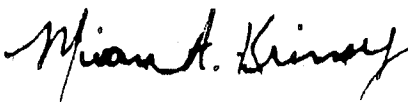
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since it was charged with first developing the proposals. If the subcommittee has not yet concluded its work, we urge you to exercise appropriate oversight and provide accountability to the public by acting in September to adopt a specific and timely schedule for the completion of the subcommittee's work.

We continue to strongly believe that by providing the public with meaningful disclosure of these activities, LAFCO would be taking significant positive steps toward ensuring full public awareness of and confidence in all special reorganization processes and in all governmental decisions LAFCO is empowered to make.

We look forward to the Subcommittee's report in September.

Sincerely,



Miriam A. Krinsky  
President



LeeAnn M. Pelham  
Executive Director

Attachments